Supply of Raw Jute by NJMC to Private Jute Mills

110. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Jute Manufactures Corporation offered a large quantity of raw jute from its own stock to private jute mill owners who had declared unilateral lock-out on the plea of scarcity of raw jute; and

(b) if so, to what extent this offer was accepted or utilised for opening the jute mills by the mill owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) The Jute Corporation of India, on behalf of National Jute Manufactures Corporation, offered for sale three time excess raw jute belonging to NJMC, at the ruling market price to mills in the private sector but there was virtually no response from the mills to those offers.

Demand for supply of raw jute through J.C.I.

111. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Central Trade Unions including the INTUC of West Bengal have demanded that the purchase of raw jute be made exclusively through the Jute Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Some of the Trade Unions of West Bengal have suggested introduction of a scheme of monopoly procurement of raw jute. Monopoly procurement of raw jute by Jute Corporation of India will imply a lot of operational, administrative and infrastructural commitments from the side of the State Governments. The Jute Corporation of India is presently equipped for procuring about 25 per cent of the total production of raw jute in the country. The Corporation has been made responsible for undertaking price support operation of raw jute, whenever necessary, in the interests of jute growers. The Corporation undertakes to purchase the entire quantity of raw jute offered to it at minimum statutory price fixed by the Government has also accepted the liability to subsidise the losses incurred by the Corporation on price support operation.

Reopening of locked-out and closed jute mills in Calcutta

112. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of locked-out jute mills which have been reopened in Calcutta after he had visited Calcutta on the 21st May, 1985; and

(b) what is the number of closed jute mills which have been opened since then?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Bipartite and tripartite conciliation proceedings for reopening of a number of closed jute mills are already in an advanced stage. The lock-out has been lifted in case of one jute mill with effect from 11th July, 1985.

Distribution of imported scrap ships

113. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints of irregularities and favouritism in the distribution of imported scrap ships in the demolition market